

The following is a complete listing of all claims in the application, with an indication of the status of each:

Listing of claims:

- 1 1. (previously presented) A method for making prioritized recommendations
2 to a customer in the process of filling a market basket for purchase on an
3 Internet commerce site, the method comprising the steps of:
4 generating by automated means a matrix of training data;
5 determining by automated means preferences for items not in said
6 market basket based on associative and renewal buying history from the
7 training data, said preference for each said item being determined by
8 separately determining a preference for renewal buying and combining said
9 separately determined preference for renewal buying with a separately
10 determined preference for associative buying, wherein said preference for
11 associative buying is dependent upon items in said market basket and said
12 preference for renewal buying is not dependent upon items in said market
13 basket ; and
14 making by automated means, and from said item preferences, a
15 prioritized recommendation of items so as to maximize the likelihood that the
16 customer will add to the market basket those items with higher priorities.
- 1 2-8. (canceled)

YOR920000776US1

EXPEDITED ACTION: AFTER FINAL

00280677aa

Amendment dated 03/04/2005

Reply to office action mailed 01/04/2005

- 1 9. (previously presented) A method for making prioritized recommendations
2 to a customer in the process of filling a market basket for purchase on an
3 Internet commerce site, the method comprising the steps of:
4 collecting by automated means statistics on preferences for associative
5 and renewal buying of items not in said market basket from training data;
6 precomputing by automated means model parameters for the probability
7 of a customer buying an item not in said market basket, said model parameters
8 being precomputed from the collected statistics and separately considering a
9 probability component for said associative buying and a probability component
10 for said renewal buying, wherein said probability for associative buying is
11 dependent upon items in said market basket and said probability for renewal
12 buying is not dependent upon items in said market basket ; and
13 automatically recommending for said customer a priority ordering of
14 items based on the precomputed model parameters for a given market basket.
- 1 10. (previously presented) The method of claim 9, wherein the step of
2 collecting statistics comprises the steps of:
- 3 (a) for each item j , obtaining n_j a number of baskets with item j purchased;
4 (b) for each item j , obtaining n_j a number of baskets with j being a sole
5 item purchased;
6 (c) for each pair of items i and j , obtaining a number of market baskets n_{ji}
7 with items j and i purchased together; and
8 (d) for each pair of items i and j , obtaining a number of market baskets n_{ji}
9 with items i and j being the only two items purchased.

1 11. (previously presented) The method of claim 10, wherein the step of
2 precomputing model parameters comprises the steps of:

3 (a) computing $P(\text{renewal}) = \frac{\sum_{k=1}^m n_k}{m}$;

4 (b) for each item j , computing $P(j) = \frac{n_j}{\sum_{k=1}^m n_k}$;

5 (c) for each item j , computing $P(\text{renewal} | j) = \frac{n_j}{n_j} P(\text{renewal}) \left(1 - \frac{n_j}{n_j} \right)$;

6 (d) for each item j , computing
7 $P(j | \text{renewal}) = P(\text{renewal} | j) \times \frac{P(j)}{P(\text{renewal})}$;

8 (e) for each pair of items i and j with $n_{ij} > 0$, computing $P(j | i) = \frac{n_{ji}}{\sum_{k=1}^m n_{ki}}$;

9 (f) for each pair of items i and j with $n_{ij} > 0$, computing
10 $P(\text{renewal} | j, i) = \frac{n_{ji}}{n_{ji}} P(\text{renewal}) \left(1 - \frac{n_{ji}}{n_{ji}} \right)$; and

11 (g) for each pair of items i and j with $n_{ij} > 0$, computing
12 $P(j | \text{asso}, i) = P(j | i) \times \frac{(1 - P(\text{renewal} | j, i)))}{(1 - P(\text{renewal} | i)))}$.

12. (previously presented) The method of claim 11, wherein given a partial basket $\mathbf{B} = \{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_k\}$ and $\bar{\mathbf{B}}$ is a complementary set of items not in \mathbf{B} , the step of recommending ordering for a given partial market basket comprises the steps of:

(a) if \mathbf{B} is empty, sorting items in order of decreasing $\mathbf{P}(j \mid \text{renewal})$ and returning this as an item preference ordering;

7 (b) if \mathbf{B} is non-empty, then

8 (i) computing $\mathbf{P}(\text{renewal} \mid \mathbf{B}) = \min_{i_k \in \mathbf{B}} \mathbf{P}(\text{renewal} \mid i_k)$;

9 (ii) compute a normalization factor $\mathbf{P}(\bar{k} \mid \text{renewal})$;
 $k \in \bar{\mathbf{B}}$

10 (iii) for each item $j \in \mathbf{B}$, computing

$$11 \quad \mathbf{P}(j \mid \text{renewal}) = \frac{\mathbf{P}(j \mid \text{renewal})}{\sum_{k \in \bar{\mathbf{B}}} \mathbf{P}(k \mid \text{renewal})};$$

12 (iv) computing a normalization factor $\mathbf{P}(j \mid \text{asso}, \mathbf{B})$;

13 (v) , for each item $j \in \mathbf{B}$, computing

$$14 \quad \mathbf{P}(j \mid \text{asso}, \mathbf{B}) = \max_{i_k \in \mathbf{B}} \mathbf{P}(j \mid \text{asso}, i_k) ;$$

15 (vi) for each item $j \in \overline{\mathbf{B}}$, computing

$$16 \quad \mathbf{P}(j \mid \text{asso}, \mathbf{B}) = \frac{\mathbf{P}(j \mid \text{asso}, \mathbf{B})}{\sum_{k \in \bar{\mathbf{B}}} \mathbf{P}(k \mid \text{asso}, \mathbf{B})};$$

- 17 (vii) for each item $j \in \bar{B}$, computing
18 $P(j|B) = P(j | \text{asso}, B)P(\text{asso} | B) + P(j | \text{renewal}, B)P(\text{renewal} | B)$;
19 and
20 (viii) sorting items in order of decreasing $P(j | B)$ and returning this
21 as an item preference ordering.

1 13. (previously presented) The method of claim 12, wherein the step of
2 sorting comprises the step of using a final probability obtained for each item,
3 $P(j | B)$, of a customer buying the item to maximize profit by recommendation.

1 14. (previously presented) The method of claim 13, wherein the step of using
2 a final probability of an item to maximize profit comprises the steps of:
3 assigning a profit amount, $\$j$, to each item;
4 computing $P(j | B)\$j$ for each item; and
5 ranking recommendations based on the computation of $P(j | B)\$j$ for
6 each item.